

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Monmouth County Real Estate Partner Sentenced to One Year for Bribing Authority Executive Director

(More)

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NEWARK – A Marlboro Township real estate partner was sentenced today to a year in federal prison for bribing a sewer authority official with thousands of dollars in architectural drawings to gain favor in getting sewerage service to projects in Marlboro Township, U.S. Attorney Christopher J. Christie announced.

U.S. District Judge Susan D. Wigenton also fined Edward Kay \$4,000 and ordered him to surrender to the federal Bureau of Prisons by Aug. 15.

Kay, 39, was the business partner of Bernard and Steven Meiterman, the Monmouth County developers who, with Kay, pleaded guilty on Oct. 29, 2007, to bribing Frank G. Abate, the former Executive Director of the Western Monmouth Utilities Authority.

All three defendants admitted before Judge Wigenton to bribing Abate by paying thousands of dollars in architectural drawings for Abate's home in exchange for Abate exercising his authority for their benefit. The Meitermans also admitted obstructing the grand jury investigation into their dealings with Abate by coaching the architect on how to testify falsely before the federal grand jury investigating their dealings in Monmouth County.

Bernard Meiterman is an attorney and was general counsel to the Meiterman companies. He was sentenced on Thursday by Judge Wigenton to two years in federal prison and fined \$7,500. Steven Meiterman's sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 8.

Abate, of Marlboro, was convicted on May 25, 2007, following a two-week jury trial. On Aug. 13, 2007, Judge Wigenton sentenced Abate to 51 months in federal prison and fined him \$10,000.

All three defendants were initially arrested and charged by Indictment on Dec. 6, 2006, and a federal grand jury returned a Superseding Indictment against them on March 20, 2007.

Christie credited Special Agents of the FBI's Red Bank Resident Agency, under the direction of Special Agent in Charge Weysan Dun, with the investigation leading to the charges against the Meitermans and Kay.

Christie also credited Assistant U.S. Attorney Judith H. Germano of the U.S. Attorney's Office, Special Prosecutions Division, in Newark, who is prosecuting the case.

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Defense Counsel for Kay: Robert G. Stevens, Esq., Princeton